

MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS OF SEPTEMBER 23RD, 1936.

The Board of Public Works met in the offices of the Board of Public Works, Union Trust Building, Baltimore, on Wednesday, September 23rd, 1936.

Present -

Harry W. Nice, Governor.
Wm. S. Gordy, Jr., Comptroller.
Hooper S. Miles, Treasurer.

Mr. Wm. H. Blakeman, State Budget Director, attended the meeting.

The members of the Board of Mental Hygiene and the Boards of Managers of Spring Grove State Hospital, Springfield State Hospital, Crownsville State Hospital, Eastern Shore State Hospital and Rosewood State Training School were invited to this meeting for the purpose of going over with them the question of appropriations to the Institutions named for the fiscal year beginning October 1st, 1937. There was allotted out of the Reserve Fund for that fiscal year the sum of \$150,000 to supplement appropriations in the budget for the Institutions, and the distribution of the allotment was made by the Board of Mental Hygiene in collaboration with the Boards of Managers of the Institutions.

Governor Nice read a statement to those attending the meeting outlining the difficulties of the Board of Public Works in allotting a Reserve Fund of \$638,000.00 to various State Agencies where the claims of those agencies had approximated \$1,200,000 for the year. The Governor stated the Board had been as generous as possible to the Institutions in arriving at the amount of \$150,000 allotted to them, and that it was felt that other agencies of the State might have suffered in the work of cutting down on appropriations of other agencies so that the \$150,000 could be available to the Institutions. The Governor urged that the Institution Heads and Boards of Managers cooperate with the Board of Public Works in endeavoring to run these Institutions as efficiently as possible on the funds available and assured them that the only reason there was not more money given to them was that there was no more money available.

Mr. Blakeman explained to those assembled at the meeting the operating costs of the Institutions for the past several years, and compared those costs with the allotments for the fiscal year 1937.

Dr. George H. Preston, Commissioner of Mental Hygiene, Doctor Hugh H. Young, a member of the Board of Managers of Crownsville State Hospital, Dr. Ira A. Darling, Superintendent of Springfield State Hospital, Mr. Wm. T. Gundry of the Board of Managers of Crownsville State Hospital, Dr. Silas W. Weltmer, Superintendent of Spring Grove State Hospital, Dr. Kenneth B. Jones, Superintendent of Rosewood State Training School, Dr. Jack of the Board of Managers of Eastern Shore State Hospital, and

Dr. Charles J. Carey, Superintendent of Eastern Shore State Hospital, spoke in behalf of their institutions, explaining their problems, and all of them assuring the Board of Public Works that they would do their best to meet the situation and run their institutions on the allowances made to them.

There was considerable discussion about the new building at Eastern Shore State Hospital. It was stated that the additional amount allotted to the Institutions would not permit them to open the new building. It was stated that approximately \$19,000.00 would be needed to take care of the additional expense incident to opening and operating the new building. It was claimed that this additional expense represented new personnel to operate the new building, costs for heating, food, etc.

The Governor and the other members of the Board of Public Works explained that it would not be possible to supply any additional funds to the Institution. The situation existing at Eastern Shore State Hospital caused by overcrowding was fully discussed and the question of transfer of some of these patients to other institutions was considered. However, the Board of Public Works left it to the Board of Mental Hygiene and the Institution Heads as to what would be best to do under the circumstances without additional expense being incurred, there being as stated before no additional funds available.

Doctor H. C. Byrd, President of the University of Maryland, appeared before the Board and stated that the \$65,000 allotted to the University of Maryland to renovate the heating plant, including the installation of new boilers at College Park would not be sufficient, and that about \$6,000.00 additional would be required to supplement the \$65,000.00 already allotted in order to cover the cost of the work.

Doctor Byrd stated that there was \$17,000 in surplus funds in the Sinking Fund carried at the Mercantile Trust Company for the loan issued by the University of Maryland, then the Maryland Agricultural College, some years before over and above the requirements to take care of the redemption of the outstanding bonds. It was stated that all of the bonds had been purchased for the Sinking Fund, and that there remained in the Fund over and above the needs of the Fund the sum of \$17,000.00. Dr. Byrd suggested that \$6,000.00 of this be used to supplement the allotment of \$65,000 for the heating plant, that \$4,000 of it be used for laboratory facilities at the Medical School at the University of Maryland at Baltimore, and that \$7,000 be allotted for emergencies subject to the approval of the Board of Regents of the University of Maryland and the Board of Public Works.

Doctor Byrd's suggestion was approved, and he was authorized to arrange accordingly with the Mercantile Trust Company of Baltimore.

The following letter addressed to the Board by Mr. Wm. H. Blakeman, State Budget Director, dated September 22nd, 1936, was read and approved.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
Annapolis, Md.

September 22nd, 1936.

9/23/36

The Board of Public Works,
Annapolis, Maryland.

Gentlemen:-

Herewith are presented for final review and approval the Budget "breakdowns" of the following departments which remained unapproved after the meeting of September 9, and were further discussed by members of the Board on September 16:

State Roads Department
Motor Vehicle Commissioner
State Police
Traffic Court
Game Department
State Tobacco Warehouse

The Board will note that adjustments in the appropriations to these departments are made under Section 3 of the Budget Law and as such are not involved in the allowance from the "Cushion Fund".

It is recommended that these be considered budget amendments and the transfers of funds under Section 3 approved by the Board carrying with them the approval of the Governor according to law.

Yours very truly,

/s/ Wm. H. Blakeman

State Budget Director.

The following letter from Mr. Wm. H. Blakeman, State Budget Director, dated September 22nd, 1936, relative to the Budget for the Public Schools System, was read and approved.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
Annapolis, Md.

September 22nd, 1936.

The Board of Public Works,
Annapolis, Maryland.

Gentlemen:-

Herewith are presented for review and approval by the Board the budget "breakdowns" of the State Public School System including the details of the State Department of Education and the four Normal Schools. The lump sum allotments made by the Board on August 4, have been distributed among the various items of the Public School Budget in a different manner from the first recommendations for that Department. The State Superintendent of Education has reviewed the situation in the light of the actual enrollments at the four Normal Schools and the results of the enrollment this year have been quite different from the expectation. The Teachers' College at Frostburg has not had the enrollment that was hoped for. The Teachers' College at Salisbury did not quite meet their expectations of the early summer, and the Normal School at Bowie is having great difficulty in collecting even the estimated fees from their students. So that, the allotments have been increased to Frostburg and to Bowie, and the allotment of last year has been continued to Salisbury, the difference being taken out of the recommended allotment to Towson. This institution has enjoyed a marked increase in enrollment, thereby allowing them to function during the coming year with none of the "Cushion Fund" money, but it has been found necessary to distribute these available funds to the other three institutions.

The enclosed "breakdowns" are recommended for the Board's approval.

Yours very truly,

/s/ Wm. H. Blakeman

State Budget Director.

The following letter from Mr. Wm. H. Blakeman, State Budget Director, dated September 22nd, 1936, relative to the Board of Motion Picture Censors, was read and approved -

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
Annapolis, Md.

September 22nd, 1936.

The Board of Public Works,
Annapolis, Maryland.

Gentlemen:-

Please note that the Board of Motion Picture Censors have requested a change in their "Breakdown" as presented previously and desire to increase the salary of their Chief Clerk beginning October 1 by \$100 a year, deducting this amount from their item for traveling expenses.

I recommend that the change be incorporated in their final copy of their "breakdown".

Yours very truly

/s/ Wm. H. Blakeman
State Budget Director.

The following letter from Mr. Wm. H. Blakeman, State Budget Director, dated September 22nd, 1936, relative to the recovering of funds heretofore allotted from the Reserve Fund for the fiscal year ending September 30th, 1936, was read and approved.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
Annapolis, Md.

September 22nd, 1936.

The Board of Public Works,
Annapolis, Maryland.

Gentlemen:-

In reference to the recapture of Reserve Funds for the fiscal year ending September 30th, 1936, the Board will kindly be advised that the recapture of the following amounts is certain:

State Industrial Accident Commission	\$6,900.
Insurance Department	1,975.
Central Purchasing Bureau	1,000.
Board of Public Works' Account	1,000.
Judiciary	1,475.
Tobacco Warehouse	400.
Springfield State Hospital	3,800.
Crownsville State Hospital	12,000.
State Board of Health	12,000.
Motion Picture Censors	2,000.
	<hr/> \$42,550.

In view of this fact and in view of the fact that there are certain allotments of these funds which are either obligatory on the Board or urgent, it is recommended that the Treasurer be allotted \$15,000 for the unexpected insurance expense recently brought to the attention of the Board by him. This can be allotted at present if the policies fall due in September or may be carried in the Reserve of the Board of Public Works earmarked for the purpose after the first of October and allotted at that time if the bills for insurance which have been under discussion are dated in October.

It is recommended that \$18,400 be allotted to pay the Milk Commission's expenses as requested and authorized by Legislative resolution. This payment is urgent in that the prospective recipients are greatly inconvenienced by the necessary delay in liquidating their claims.

In framing the resolution the Legislature apparently made the oversight of not including in their resolution an item of \$976.55 for office furniture and equipment. This appeared as a credit in the auditor's statement and really should have been added to the figure used by the Legislature. This furniture was used by the Milk Commission and later was assigned to the use of the State Roads Department, and it is a question in the writer's mind whether the Board of Public Works should appropriate money from the Reserve Funds to cover this purchase by the Milk Commission or whether the State Roads Department now should be charged with that amount. I am placing this minor question before the Board with no recommendation but asking for an opinion of the Board.

The allotment to the Military Department of \$6,000 is urgent and is recommended out of this fund.

Also it is recommended that from this fund there be allotted \$2,500 to the Commission for the Study of Higher Education of Negroes either now and carried over by the Commission, if that is proper under the Budget Law, or earmarked by the Board and allotted after the end of the present fiscal year for their use during the ensuing twelve months.

These allocations total \$41,900. and it is recommended that these payments be made or earmarked immediately as this amount and more is definitely recapturable. The remainder of the accounts which it is intended to pay from recaptured Board of Public Works Funds are well within the probabilities and it is hoped that within a few days a complete report will be in the hands of the Board.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Wm. H. Blakeman,
State Budget Director.

Mr. Blakeman, State Budget Director, brought to the attention of the Board a bill from Simpson Electrical Construction Company, in the amount of \$194.95, covering work done at the Mansion in addition to that heretofore authorized or included in work of the General Contractor or any other sub-contractor. Mr. Blakeman recommended payment of the bill out of the Mansion Repair account.

The Board approved the recommendation.

State Employees

The Secretary read to the Board an anonymous letter signed "Wife of a Guard", addressed to the State Comptroller, asking that at the next meeting of the Board of Public Works consideration be given to the restoration of salaries of the guards at penal institutions.

The Board took no action on the letter, because of already having given consideration to budgets for the penal institutions for the next fiscal year.

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a telegram from The New York Times Financial Advertising Department, soliciting advertising for proposals for the bonds to be sold by the State of October 13th. The Board was of the opinion that sufficient advertising had already been authorized.

The Secretary took up with the Board the question of the appropriation to the Tolchester Ferry for the fiscal year 1937, calling attention of the Board to the fact that the company was in receivership and the assets were being sold.

It was stated that while a sale of the assets had been made the company was still operating. The Board authorized the release of the check for the company's allotment out of the 1936 appropriation for the month of September. The Board decided that before any payments be made on account of the 1937 appropriation that the status of the Tolchester Ferry Company be investigated and decision made as to whether the Board would be justified in continuing payment of the appropriation for next year.

The following letter dated September 21st, 1936, addressed to the Board of Public Works, by the State Forester, was read and considered -

STATE DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY
1411 Fidelity Building,
Baltimore, Md.

Sept 21, 1936.

Board of Public Works,
University of Maryland,
College Park, Md.

Gentlemen:-

Authority for the purchase of two small tracts of land for addition to existing State forests is requested. The tracts are described as follows:

Approximately 88 acres, from William Winterberg, of Garrett County, at \$2 per acre. This land borders tract no. 4 on the Savage River State Forest and is all wooded with a young stand of timber. The tract has been examined and found suitable for inclusion in the state forests.

Approximately 120 acres, from Ernest I. Mudd and wife, at \$4 per acre. This tract is entirely wooded, a small portion of the stand of merchantable size. It borders the Cedarville State Forest in Charles County, it is needed to round out the boundary, and I consider it a very advantageous purchase.

I am attaching herewith two maps showing the location of the tracts described above.

Very truly yours,

/s/ F. W. Besley,

State Forester.

FWB/p

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The Board approved the purchase of the land as outlined in the foregoing letter.

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a letter dated September 19th, 1936, from the University of Maryland, relative to a deficiency in the appropriation for interest on Investment Account of the Land Grant Fund.

The Board instructed the Secretary to communicate with the University of Maryland, and advise that if it was necessary to provide the \$761.00 which it is claimed is deficient, this should be taken care of through a budget amendment transferring this amount from some other item in the University's budget.

The following letter dated September 11th, 1936, addressed to the Board of Public Works, by Crownsville State Hospital, was read and considered -

CROWNSVILLE STATE HOSPITAL

Crownsville, Md.

P.O. Waterbury.

Sept 11, 1936.

Board of Public Works,
Annapolis, Md.

Gentlemen:-

The Crownsville State Hospital Board would like your approval of their action in awarding contract to the Davis Construction Company for remodelling of male attendants quarters for which bids were opened September 9th, 1936.

The money for this project was made available from Emergency Bond Issue of June 17, 1935, Chapter 91 Amount of Bond Issue \$100,000.

\$100,000

Expenditures:

Male Attendants Home

Davis Construction Company	\$67,037.66	
Screens W.F. Fowler	574.00	
Architect's Fees	4,235.00	
For furnishings and equipment for this building reserved.	<u>5,000.00</u>	<u>76,846.66</u>

Amount available for remodelling of attendants quarters, for which bids were opened Sept 9th. 1936.

23,153.34

Davis Construction Company bid for remodelling	\$18,245.00	
New water line for above building	640.00	
Architects fees	<u>1,133.10</u>	<u>20,018.10</u>

Balance

\$3,135.24

I am enclosing copy of tabulation of bids which were opened September 9th, 1936.

Respectfully

Crownsville State Hospital Board

/s/ Wm. P. Gundry,

Secretary-Treasurer.

	Base Prop.	Time of Cont.	New Water Lines
Engineering Cont. Co.	\$19450.	1-15-37	No bid
Cogswell Const. Co.	19,850.	11-30-36	\$700.
Carlstrand Eng. Co.	21,400.	12-1-36	675.
Chas. R. Scrivener Co.	20,800.	12-19-36	620.
Davis Const. Co.	18,245.	1-1-37	640.
Loechi Const. Co.	20,800.	12-1-36	600.
C. W. Schmidt	19,600.	12-15-36	650.

Alteration of third floor of "C" Building

Crownsville State Hospital - Proposals

New beds for 45 male and 45 female patients total 90 new beds.

The Board approved the action of Crownsville State Hospital in awarding contract for the work to the Davis Construction Company as outlined in the Hospital's letter.

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board the difficulty the State Comptroller's Office was having in connection with handling the accounts of various examining boards because of the varying periods during the fiscal year in which examinations are held by the boards. In view of the difficulty encountered and the practice up to this time of handling the accounts it was agreed that the Comptroller should continue to handle the accounts the same as in the past until such time as further legislation was passed relating to these boards and their finances.

*State
Employees*

Willis R. Jones, Esq., Attorney for the Maryland Classified Employees Association, appeared before the Board and urged that consideration be given in allotting the 1937 Reserve Fund to restoration of salaries of employees whose salaries were cut in the 1933 Budget Act. The Board explained the difficulties it encountered in allotting this Reserve Fund and assured Mr. Jones that every consideration possible was given salary restorations in the allotment of the money. It was stated that it was not possible to restore all salaries, but that where it was necessary because of some employees being classified as officers to make restoration of their salaries to the sum provided by law setting forth the salaries to be received by those employees.

In addition other adjustments were made and the Board stated it felt it had done the best job possible under the circumstances.

Mr. Jones was assured that the Board would, as far as possible, make salary restorations in preparing the budget for the fiscal years 1938 and 1939. Mr. Jones was reminded that it would be necessary to legislate approximately \$2,000,000. in additional revenue to provide the funds to maintain the 1938 and the 1939 budgets on the same level with the 1937 budget, if the budgets for the first two years were to be balanced without resort to using funds raised from the sale of bonds.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Joseph C. Mcclusker
Secretary.